

Message Text

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R 081305Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BE, US

SUBJECT: BELGIAN REQUEST FOR LOCKHEED DOCUMENTS

REF: BRUSSELS 3240

1. FOLLOWING A DETERMINATION BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE CHURCH COMMITTEE AND THE SEC HAVE INFORMATION INDICATING IRREGULAR ACTIVITY INVOLVING BELGIANS AND LOCKHEED, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED THE BELGIAN EMBASSY WITH A COPY OF US-ITALIAN AGREEMENT ON EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS WHICH COULD SERVE AS A MODEL FOR US-BELGIAN AGREEMENT. BELGIAN EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION FROM BRUSSELS TO PROCEED ON THAT BASIS.

2. BELGIAN EMBASSY ECONOMIC MINISTER PAEMEN MET AT JUSTICE MAY 5 WITH STATE AND JUSTICE OFFICIALS. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON US REQUEST THAT BELGIAN SIDE INCLUDE IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS SOMEONE, PREFERABLY FROM THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, WHO COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY AS TO PROVISIONS OF THE BELGIAN CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES.

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JUSTICE INDICATED THAT MISUNDERSTANDINGS HAD ARISEN IN

SIMILAR NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH WERE REPRESENTED ONLY BY EMBASSIES AND THAT WE BELIEVE FACE-TO-FACE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN LEGAL EXPERTS IS ESSENTIAL TO

A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY EXCHANGE AGREEMENT.

3. PAEMEN, WHO HAD BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF USG VIEWS ON THIS POINT, SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT DID NOT WISH TO INVOLVE ITS MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AT THIS POINT. PAEMEN EXPLAINED THAT THE INITIATIVE IN THIS MATTER HAS BEEN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS', AND THAT HE HAS PERSONALLY CHARGED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BELIGAN HIGH CONTROL COMMISSION, WHICH IS PART OF THE PM'S OFFICE, WITH CARRYING OUT AN INVESTIGATION AND WANTS THE MATTER CLOSELY HELD.

4. PAEMEN RAISED A NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN LIEU OF BRINGING SOMEONE FROM BRUSSELS BUT JUSTICE OFFICIALS FOUND THEM UNSATISFACTORY. PAEMEN SAID HE WOULD AGAIN REPORT THE JUSTICE REQUEST AND THE RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSION. KISSINGER

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